



PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

JOHN CONNELLY

Mr. John Connelly is president of the National Fisheries Institute (NFI), a position he has held since 2003. Since taking the helm of NFI, Mr. Connelly has taken leadership positions on a number of organizations. He recently served as Chairman of International Coalition of Fisheries Associations and was named "Person of the Year" for 2006 by IntraFish Media. Mr. Connelly was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Marine Stewardship Council and is a current member of NOAA's Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee.

Before joining NFI, Mr. Connelly held business leadership and advocacy positions at the American Chemistry Council.

Mr. Connelly is a graduate of The College of the Holy Cross and earned an MBA from George Mason University. His military career includes serving as a United States Naval Officer. He continues to serve as a Captain in the United States Navy Reserve, with specializations in political-military affairs.

JOE HENDRIX

Mr. Joe Hendrix, of Seafish Mariculture, is a biologist with more than 30 years experience working in Aquaculture and the Seafood Industry. He now works as a private marine aquaculture consultant specializing in project design and operation for offshore fish farming.

Mr. Hendrix currently serves as a member of the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council for the State of Texas and Advisory Council for the Flower Gardens Banks Marine Sanctuary Program.





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MARK A. DRAWBRIDGE

Mr. Mark Drawbridge is a Senior Research Biologist at Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute (HSWRI), where he directs the Institute's aquaculture research program, which focuses on growing marine finfish for ocean replenishment and farming.

The HSWRI aquaculture research program is the largest non-governmental marine finfish program in the United States. Species currently cultured include white seabass, striped bass, rockfishes, cabezon, and California yellowtail, halibut and sheephead.

Mr. Drawbridge is the president of the California Aquaculture Association, a trade association representing more than 150 members and an aquaculture industry that generates \$100 million in product sales.

Mr. Drawbridge is a member of the Western Regional Aquaculture Center's technical committee; a science panel member for the U.S.-Japan Natural Resources Panel on Aquaculture; and San Diego's representative to the California Farm Bureau Federation Aquaculture Advisory Committee.

He has a B.S. degree in biology and a Masters degree in Marine Ecology.





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SEBASTIAN BELLE

Mr. Sebastian Belle is the executive director of the Maine Aquaculture Association, a private trade association representing the Maine aquaculture industry.

He began his career as a commercial fisherman working his way through the university on an offshore lobster boat. After earning degrees in fisheries biology and agricultural economics, he managed salmon farms in Norway, managed a commercial salmon farm in Eastport, managed a research and development project on captive rearing techniques for Bluefin Tuna, developed commercial tuna farms in Spain and Mexico, and served as a senior policy analyst to the Maine Department of Marine Resources.

Mr. Belle is also president of EconAqua, a consulting firm providing technical services to investors and nonprofit educational institutions. Sample projects included marine cage farms, fresh water and marine hatcheries, large scale recirculation and flow through land based production farms, broodstock facilities and programs, fish processing plants, live fish transport systems and large pelagic fish exhibit facilities in public aquariums.

